Montana

Nutrition and Physical Activity Program to Prevent Obesity and Other Chronic Diseases (Web site under development)

The Epidemic

57% of Montana adults are overweight or obese. (CDC BRFSS, 2002)

17% of non-Hispanic white adults and 39 percent of American Indian adults in Montana are obese.

(CDC BRFSS, 2002; Montana AIS, 2003)

The obesity rate for Montana adults rose by 115% from 1990 to 2002. (CDC BRFSS, 1990, 2002)

18% of Montana high school students are overweight or at risk of becoming overweight. (CDC YRBSS, 2003)

Major Accomplishments to Date

- ➤ Twenty-nine schools participating in the National Walk to School Day
- Co-sponsored a three-part training for Montanan American Indian Communities focusing on the Native American Healthy Schools–Healthy Communities Summit and Defeating Diabetes
- Completed School Health Index assessment in 65 schools
- ➤ Implemented the CATCH curriculum in 8 schools
- Co-sponsored the "Fighting the Obesity Epidemic in Indian Country" training (broadcast to six states)

Partners

American Cancer Society
American Diabetes Association
Flathead City County Health Department
Ft. Peck Tribal Health Department
Help Committee/Boys and Girls Club of the Hi-line
Missoula City County Health Department
Montana Dietetic Association
Mont. Department of Health & Human Services,
Tobacco Prevention Program and WIC Program
Montana Office of Public Instruction, Coordinated
School Health, School Food Service, and Team
Nutrition Programs
Montana Social Norms Project
Montana School Health Program
Montana State University

University of Montana-Missoula

Program Priorities

The Montana Nutrition and Physical Activity Program received CDC funding for obesity prevention and control under a previous cooperative agreement, for two years, beginning in 2001. A comprehensive state plan, *MOVE Montana...Healthy Weight Initiative*, was completed in early 2003.

Community-based nutrition and physical activity coalitions have developed action plans and implemented pilot interventions in two of the state's largest population centers (Missoula and Kalispell) and on one Indian reservation (Fort Peck). The focus of these interventions has been on implementing a science-based nutrition and/or physical activity curriculum in selected schools. Additional population areas may be added through competitive grants if funds become available.

Upcoming Events and Products

- A review of and revisions to the state plan
- Expansion of plans for a breast feeding initiative to increase the number of partners who are actively involved
- Increased attention to planning for environmental change and identification of environmental indicators

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Funding Stage: Capacity Building
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